

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 remain pending in this application for which applicant seeks reconsideration.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shiraishi (USP 6,954,538) in view of Kim (USP 7,155,017). Claims 2, 6, and 9 were rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shiraishi in view of Kim and Koyama (USPGP 2004/0258259). Lastly, claims 3, 7, and 10 were rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shiraishi in view of Kim and Sekine (USPGP 2004/0228498).

The priority application has a filing date of 18 February 2004, which is earlier than the effective U.S. filing date of Kim (16 March 2004), Koyama (08 June 2004), and Sekine (06 April 2004). To perfect priority and antedate these references, applicant submits a verified English translation of the priority application.

As Kim, Koyama, and Sekine are not viable prior art as against this application, all rejections have been overcome.

Applicant submits that claims 1-11 patentably distinguish over the applied references and are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicant urges the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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12 MARCH 2008

DATE

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